

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the Application of :  
Douglas J. Dobrozsi et al. :  
Serial No.: 09/467,333 :  
Confirmation No.: 2248 : Group Art Unit: 1617  
Filed: December 20, 1999 : Examiner: E. Webman  
Title: Compositions Having Improved Stability :

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.111**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the February 5, 2003 Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows and consider the accompanying remarks.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel Claim 34 without prejudice.

Please rewrite Claim 21 to recite the following:

Claim 21. (4th Amendment) An oral composition comprising:

- (a) a pharmaceutical active selected from the group consisting of antitussives, antihistamines, non-sedating antihistamines, decongestants, expectorants, analgesics, mucolytics, antipyretics, anti-inflammatory agents, local anesthetics, and mixtures thereof, wherein the pharmaceutical active has a molecular weight of less than 500 grams per mole;
- (b) a hydrophilic, water-miscible, anhydrous solvent selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol, ethanol, poly(ethylene glycol) or PEG, propylene carbonate, diethylene glycol monoethyl ether, poloxamer, glycofurool, glycerol, and mixtures thereof, wherein the pharmaceutical active in its un-ionized form has a percent solubility value in the solvent at ambient temperature that is equal to or greater than 0.075% and the pharmaceutical active is in its free, un-ionized form as a monomolecular dispersion in the solvent; and
- (c) a reducing agent wherein the reducing agent has an  $E^{\circ}$  value equal to or greater than about -0.119V.